the lines of the Travancore Chitty Regulation to regulate the starting and conduct of Kuries in the State."

Hence the following amendment of Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon to the above resolution was considered withdrawn·—

"*Omit the words 'on the lines of the Travancore Chitty Regulation*'".

The abolition of licenses for jaggery tapping.

On account of Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur's absence, the following resolution was also taken as withdrawn :—

"*This Council recommends to the Government that the licensing of jaggery tapping and the marking of jaggery tapping trees may be abolished, and that jaggery tapping may be made free and without license in the State to any individual without distinction*".

The appointment of a Committee to enquire into the Co-operative movement.

President.—The next resolution standing in the name of Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar about the Co-operative movement in the State runs as follows:—

"*That this Council recommends to the Government that a Committee should be appointed to enquire into and report upon the working of the Co-operative movement in the State with a view to the fact that the future of the State depends much on this movement.*"

Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.—Sir, The Co-operative Societies Regulation (Regulation IV of 1088) was passed in 1088, and soon after, a department was organized and a Registrar was appointed to guide the movement. The Co-operative Department is in several respects quite unlike the other departments of the State. The movement is purely a people's movement, and the policy of the Government everywhere has been to preserve the democratic nature of it. The departmental officers have simply to put them in the way and to be seeing that they don't go out of it. The policy is clearly laid down in the Government of India Resolution, dated 29th April 1904 and in several subsequent orders of the provincial governments. It is now nearly 14 years since the movement was started in the State, and it is now time for us to take stock of what has hitherto been done and to have some definite plans for further work in the light of the developments in other parts of the world.

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According to the *Administration Report* for 1101 there are, in the State, 140 Co-operative Societies, and the *Report* says that all of them are working except 9. It is also seen from the *Report* that 15,412 people have joined the movement, and that the total transactions of all the Societies together amounted to 25 lakhs. The number of Societies has been increasing year after year and along with it the number of members and the amount of total transactions. If a graph is drawn to show the progress of Co-operation in the State, it will show that steady progress has been made, and a casual observer may run away with the idea that everything possible is being done, and that there is nothing wrong. Let it not be misunderstood that I am complaining against the Government or the department. Far from that. In this particular matter, I have very little to say against them. But I have to point out, and that as seriously as possible, that Co-operation has not begun to do all that it can do for us, or, more correctly, the people have not made Co-operation do all that it can do for them, and even where they use it, they do not use it quite exactly as they ought to. In our State, Sir, only the credit side has developed to any appreciable extent, and even in this there are ever so many defects that stand in need of remedy. Look at the way in which the total work of the Co-operative Societies has been represented in the *Administration Report*. It is put down at 25 lakhs of rupees. In the whole report there is nothing except a few lines of details about money borrowed, money deposited, money lent out, money collected and the amount of interest paid and the profits earned. It is all money-lending and nothing else, whereas in countries outside India Co-operation is made use of in the matter of all possible kinds of business, production, buying, selling, industries, everything. It has to be investigated why people have not turned their attention to such things here. This is not a small matter. In fact, this is most important in a poor country like ours. The State is economically extremely poor, and unless effective measures are taken to prevent economic distress, it may all end in chaos one day. Our condition is becoming worse and worse every day, and you may rest assured that Co-operation is the only thing that can save us and keep us going. The existing conditions have to be looked into, and a definite and clear plan has to be laid out for future work. For this, men who have studied the activities and the progress of other countries, men who have seen things for themselves and are competent to give advice, have to be called in.

Then, in our State, there are several obstacles standing in the way of the progress of Co-operation. Communal disunion

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is one of them; want of knowledge of the principles of Co-operation is another. Then there are elements at work that, if let alone, will not only retard the progress but may even undermine the beautiful edifice that is being built up. All these have to be considered and effective safeguards made and kept ready.

In this connection, I may be permitted to point out that it is not always right to entrust anything and everything to the Members of the Legislative Council. I see an amendment printed in the statement of business that the Committee should be a Committee composed of the Members of this House. I do not quite approve of it. This is a matter which stands in need of expert advice. I, therefore, suggest the following names. I simply suggest, and I leave the rest to the Government.

1. Mr. G. K. Devadhar, President of the Co-operative Institute, Bombay, is almost the greatest authority on Co-operation now in the field. It may also be noted that the Mysore Government sought his services along with another great man Samuldhas. He came into the State once or twice, and he had opportunities of knowing the conditions obtaining here.

2. Rao Bahadur V. T. Krishna Menon, Secretary, Malabar District Bank, if called in, will be of much help, as he is known to be an ardent worker in the Malabar District.

3. If these two are brought from outside, then, three men may be selected from the State to work with them. I shall suggest three names from the State also. Mr. Mukundan Raja, President of the Cochin Central Co-operative Bank, is a practical Co-operator.

4. Then, Mr. Joseph Pettah of the State Co-operative Institute may be another. He is a gentleman who has learned a lot about Co-operation.

5. Lastly, the Registrar himself may be asked to join the Committee, as he will be the proper man to represent the history of the movement in the State, the existing difficulties and the scope for further development.

In conclusion, I may tell you, Sir, I do not care who constitute the Committee, but I am very particular that the Committee should be so composed as to be able to do some useful work, and to give us some guidance for our work for some years to come.

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President.—Will it be possible to secure the services of Mr. Devadhar ?

Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.—It is as easy as anything, if the Government is prepared to give him his travelling expenses. The preliminary work may be done with the help of Mr. Krishna Menon. If he is called in, and if Mr. Davadhar remains here for a fortnight, he will be able to do such work for which others may require an year. He is a man who has got answers for anything and everything at his fingers' ends.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I second the motion.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Sir, the progress of the Co-operative movement in the State has been steady and satisfactory, and there is no sign that it is being retarded in any way. As in British India, in Cochin also, the development of the movement is due almost entirely to the activities of the official agency. The Government are fully aware that it is imperative in the interests of further progress of the movement that a thorough reorganisation of the Department of Co-operation involving a strengthening of its staff is undoubtedly necessary ; but this is a matter of detail which will be attended to as soon as the Special Finance Committee submits its report. Both on the urban and the rural side, Co-operation is spreading, and, if forms of Societies other than credit have not sprung up in large numbers, it is on account of the relatively backward condition of the people due to the want of a real comprehension of what all is implied in the term " Co-operation ". The existing Credit Societies afford a good field for training in Co-operative work, and with the growth in their number and the increasing economic pressure, the time is not far distant when the Registrar will be called upon to meet the demand for higher forms of Co-operation. Any attempt on the part of the department to create artificial need for such Societies would be a grave mistake.

So far as the existing needs of Co-operation in the State are concerned, there are ample facilities afforded through

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means of which any question concerning the movement might be discussed or solved or brought before the Government. There is the Registrar and his staff who organise and register Societies and generally control the movement. Besides audit and liquidation work, they do also a good part of the supervision which has rightly to be attended to by the Central Bank or by Unions organised for the purpose. Supervising Unions do not now exist in this State. But efforts are being made in this direction, and it is not long before they will come into existence. Next, there is the Central Bank which has taken up the following functions :—

(a) to organise and develop Co-operative Societies in the State;

(b) to finance Co-operative Societies and generally to carry on banking business with such Societies;

(c) to control its affiliated Societies by regular and careful supervision and inspection, and

(d) to settle all matters of common interest, to advise and assist the Societies and further their interest in every way.

It may be of interest to note here that, out of a total working capital of Rs. 4,25,316 at the end of 1101, a sum of Rs. 1,56,946—7—8 represents investments made by the Darbar of security deposits. Then, there is the Central Co-operative Institute, which was started on its work with substantial Government help, and which has for its object the development of the Co-operative movement on sound lines by carrying on a steady, systematic and active educational propaganda. The Institute has also taken upon itself the functions of organising new Societies, holding training classes and of focussing public opinion on matters relating to Co-operation. The annual conference afford a fourth medium. Besides presenting a suitable opportunity for personal consultation and meeting, interest in Co-operation can be stimulated through such gatherings, and matters requiring the attention of the Government can be brought to notice.

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Lastly, there is the Economic Development Committee ever studying local problems with a view to applying to them the principles of Co-operation. If all the above four authorities, viz., the department, the Central Bank, the Institute and the Economic Development Committee co-ordinate their activities and work in the proper spirit, the future of Co-operation in the State is assured. Without such co-ordination and non-official help an essentially people's movement such as the Co-operative movement cannot progress.

Thus viewing the question from every aspect, there does not appear to be sufficient reason for the appointment of a Committee of Enquiry as proposed, and hence the Government are unable to see their way to accept the resolution.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—On a point of information, Sir. I should like to know how far the work of the Economic Development Committee, as organised by the Council, has progressed.

Mr. C. Matthai.—We have started the work. We have been allowed a certain period of time. We are going to submit proposals. We want nearly 15,000 rupees for carrying on the work.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—That is not the way of developing the economic condition of the State.

President.—You can give us some idea about it, Mr. Matthai?

Mr. C. Matthai.—It is all published in the Gazette.

President.—How many meetings were held?

Mr. C. Matthai.—Two meetings, Sir.

President.—They are earnest in their work. But, as for the result, it is another matter.

Let us have some more useful discussion on the subject. You may have something to say, Mr. Salem.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I would say just a few words so that we may rise at 2 o'clock. (*Laughter.*) Of course, I am in perfect agreement with the mover of the resolution. This is

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one of the most important ways in which the Government can help the non-officials to progress towards the economic advancement of the State. Hitherto, there has not been any Co-operation noticed in the field of agriculture. We have found people put to difficulties for money, solving their problems by means of these Co-operative Societies in our State. Co-operative gathering of seeds for better cultivation and the Co-operative dairy farming and Co-operative poultry farming and all these activities in which eatables are materially increased in the country are not given attention to by the Government. In all these matters life produces life, and we get increases from life itself. And in these matters we wish to see our Government giving greater attention. Not that we are going to find fault with the Government for everything. Far from it. We are only suggesting better ways for the amelioration of the condition of the people in the land. Mr. G. K. Devadhar, I understand, was in Cochin during the time of our late Diwan Mr. Narayana Menon, and had promised his help, if required. He was here for a number of days, and I had the pleasure of making his acquaintance at that time, and he also presided at one of the Co-operative meetings in the State. He has given us a promise that he will give us all help possible. If the Government is not prepared to have a Committee such as the mover of the resolution has suggested, I request the Government at least to ask Mr. Devadhar to camp in the Cochin State for a fortnight, and I am sure he will gladly do it. And while he is here, he can give practical suggestions into all these lines of development, and the Government can disseminate that knowledge by means of leaflets in the country, which would do as well to educate the people through the Co-operative Central Institute. Of course, a meeting of all the Co-operative Societies may be held, and these aspects of development in agricultural co-operation mainly should receive attention. That is all I have to say on this subject.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, I do not find any reason to congratulate the Government on their stand in this all-important matter. Briefly, it is one of complaisance. We have got several Co-operative Societies in the State. These Societies are doing transactions to the extent of lakhs of rupees. We have got the Registrar, we have got this, we have got that, and we have got the Co-operative Central Bank and the Co-operative Institute. That is the Government's attitude, and that is the Government's consolation. But, Sir, as one who has worked in the field of Co-operation for some time, I do not think the course the movement has taken during the last few years is one upon which the Government can look with any equanimity. In

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my opinion, the movement has been losing ground. The Secretary to the Government has given one explanation for the movement not taking root in any other line than the credit one. I take it as a piece of defamation against the enlightened people of Cochin. What he said was the people are backward, and that they are not educated enough to take to other lines of Co-operation. With 72% of our boys and girls getting education, with a percentage of literacy surpassing every other part of India, is this the time to say that our people are so backward that they cannot take to Co-operation? There is something wrong somewhere. There is something wrong at the very root. It is that that we have to find out, and it is for that that a Committee is demanded by this House. The Governments' attitude in this matter is not quite commendable. Sir, you go into the Societies, and see what is being done there. On the last occasion, when I had to speak about Co-operation here, I mentioned that there are Societies in our State which had discontinued writing accounts for months, nay, years; there are Societies in which meetings are never held; there are Societies which are never recording what is being done there; and there are Societies in which so many things are beingdone in the name of Co-operation, but which are against all principles of Co-operation! Sir, in one Society, loans were being lent out without any paper to show that there was a loan! All these are known to the Registrar. The Central Bank cannot improve this State of affairs, nor the Central Co-operative Institute. I do not say that such and such persons should be selected to form a Committee, but Mr. Devadhar is one who had been in Cochin. I had the opportunity of sitting at his feet for more than 2 days, and the advice I got from him was of much use to the Society which is under my presidentship in Trichur. He was responsible for starting the Central Co-operative Institute, and he is responsible for bringing in the compulsory deposit system. In the Bank of which I am the President, under that item alone, we have got a deposit of 10,000 rupees. He is a man who has taken a real interest in and made a thorough study of the movement all over the world. If the Government can find its way to invite Mr. Devadhar, he will accept it, and he will prove to be of much use to the department. I support Mr. Rama Ayyar's resolution.

The House rose for lunch at 2 p. m. It met again at 3 p.m.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Wariar.—I beg to support the resolution. I am surprised to find the Government not taking an attitude of sympathy with this very noble resolution. What is the reason given by the Government? It is this: the Co-operative Societies are making steady progress, and satisfactory

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progress too. There are about half a dozen supervising or controlling institutions or bodies in existence in the Cochin State. I am very sorry to remark that I am unable to accept the statement that the Co-operative Societies are making steady and satisfactory progress. If progress is to be judged by the number of Societies—by the number alone—it may be said that they are making progress in that direction. But if progress is to be judged by the actual work done by the Co-operative Societies, then, I must say that the movement is a practical failure. I am surprised to find that the Government—the Hon'ble Member who spoke on behalf of the Government—scrupulously avoided any mention of the work that is actually done by those institutions or bodies. What have they achieved? In what lines have they worked? What was the result they were able to achieve so far? They did not inform this House. The Supervising Unions—I think they are only in paper, and I saw it in the Gazette only a few weeks ago. But I don't think that a single Supervising Union has yet been established. The Central Bank, of course, deals with large amounts of money, but what are they doing with the money? Where have they invested the amount? Have the amounts they are actually dealing with been practically used for the benefit of the poor? All these questions have to be answered, and I think, to say the least, it is not working satisfactorily. Of course, the Government graciously granted a decent amount for the working of the Co-operative Institute. But it also yet remains to be seen what work they have actually done, so far as practical work is concerned. It may be they have published some leaflets; it may be they have opened a Reading Room; it may be they have purchased some books. But I want to know whether their works have reached the poor, whether they have gone to the villages, and whether they have been of any help to the people who are really in need of the Co-operative Societies. These are things which I have not been able to learn authoritatively at any rate.

So also I think is the case with the Economic Development Committee. I remember to have raised this question in the last budget session. The prime need of our poor people is the development of Industrial and Agricultural Societies. What have the Government done to improve and develop those Societies? Can the Government honestly point to a particular Society—one Society, Agricultural or Industrial Society in the Cochin State—which is working satisfactorily? As regards the number of Societies, there is nothing to be proud of. They need more of consolidation than of expansion as things now stand. Even supervision is not properly done. I remember to have raised this

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question when there was a very meagre allotment for the Inspectors, and I think the Government also promised to give some more money for the appointment of some more, so that the work of the existing Societies may be consolidated and better supervised. Even that does not seem to have been done. If I remember right, that question has been sent again to the Finance Committee, and I think for the time being, shelved. We also heard from the Government Member that a reorganisation of these Societies is urgently needed. Is it not the best time, then, for us to appoint a Committee of experts to go into the whole question over again, see what we have done in the last 14 years in the lines of Co-operation, whether we are going in the right way or whether we need make some changes in the course through which we are now passing? Is this not the best time to appoint a Committee and to study the whole question and ask them to prepare a report so that the Government may proceed on the lines suggested by them? I do not want to take up the time of this House any further. It is a very important question, and since the Government have already acknowledged the necessity of reorganising the whole Co-operative movement in the Cochin State, I think this is the proper time for this Council to whole-heartedly give its support to the resolution moved by my Hon'ble friend.

Mr. George Chakyamuri—I rise to support the resolution. But at the outset, I must say I am not for forming any further committees in the matter, because, as was already expressed here, it is more than a year since the Economic Development Committee was appointed.

Mr. C. Matthai.—Much less than six months.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—I correct myself—it is six months since the Committee has been appointed; and we are told by the President that it is only beginning its spade-work. And if that be the speed at which we begin work, I regret I cannot agree that the Committee will solve the problem. But I perfectly agree with the mover that Mr. Devadhar should be brought down to study the Co-operative movement in the State. It will, in my view, be a highly useful work. When we have gone through a certain stage in Co-operation, it will be very highly necessary to see where we stand as regards the Co-operative movement in Cochin. Therefore, what I suggest is that it will be quite enough, if men of the type of Mr. Devadhar are asked to spend a few days to investigate and study the situation and submit a report. I would suggest that another gentleman from the list given by Mr. Rama Ayyar may also be asked to follow Mr. Devadhar to explain the particular local conditions to him, and

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these two gentlemen together may be able to submit a report giving efficient suggestions as to what should be done in future. If Mr. Devadhar's services are not available, I would suggest the name of another gentleman, that is, Dr. John Matthai. As far as I know, he is a gentleman who has studied both the practical and theoretical aspects of the Co-operative movement in the Madras Presidency. If he is got down. in case Mr. Devadhar is not available, I would think that the State should consider it a great boon. He has studied both the scientific and the practical aspects of the question. He is eminently qualified for the work. With these suggestions I support the resolution.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I fully agree with all that was said by the Hon'ble mover, but I oppose the resolution not on the grounds raised by the Government Member, and not because I am satisfied with the present working of the Co-operative Department, but because I am not at all satisfied with the working of the 101 Committees appointed from time to time by this House. (*Hear, hear.*)

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The Economic Development Committee was not appointed by this Council.

President.—Alright, let us proceed.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—It is a slur on this House.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—That is my opinion, and that is the opinion of the public.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—It is not a matter of opinion but of fact.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—A point of information, Sir. Which are the committees appointed by this House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It is a wrong statement, and the Member for Nellayi must withdraw it.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Sir, they are not doing the work expected of them. That is all what I meant.

President.—Your expectation may be something different.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Committees serve more to drain the slender resources of the State than collecting and placing before the House the necessary data to come to right conclusions on the matter to enquire into which the Committee is appointed. The working of the Co-operative movement in the State needs certainly enquiring into. But I think the Economic Development Board must do it. They may seek the assistance of Mr. Devadhar and others whose names the Hon'ble the mover gave out.

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Mr. S. F. Nunez.—Sir, I oppose this resolution not because the Co-operative Department is working satisfactorily as the Government would have said, not because I have no faith in Committees, but because the defects in the working of the Co-operative Department can be remedied without the appointment of a Committee. We had ample opportunities in the various sessions of this Council to know the multifarious difficulties which prevail in the working of the Co-operative Department in our small State. When the Co-operative Department was ushered into existence on the pretext that it would be of benefit to most people, we were all led to believe that a millennium has at last dawned, at least so far as the poor people are concerned. But what has been the net result of the working of this department? We find the people for whom the department is intended to bring benefit are unfortunately the very people the department has not helped. Under the camouflage of the statements issued by the Societies themselves, and officially by the Government, we are led to think that the Societies are doing splendid work. But, if we are to analyse the working of the various Credit Societies,—and unfortunately we have only Credit Societies in our State—we will see that the loans issued by these Societies to the poor people are really issued under very exorbitant terms, not on paper. There they do not demand 36 or 24 per cent. But they demand only 12 per cent, or even less. But, as a matter of fact, you will see that the poor people, when they come to close the accounts, will have to pay sometimes 36 and 50 per cent, not as interest, but when penalties are also taken into account. After all, they may say penalty is one thing, and interest is another. But when it comes to the question of giving money in the shape of interest, it bends the back of the poor men. Now, so far as the Credit Societies are concerned, they do not benefit the poor people, as they are worked at present. If the account books of some of these Societies are examined in the light of the loans issued to the poor people, we will see there is not much difference between loans issued by the Co-operative Societies and those issued by the malaperts of the Trichur Bazaar. We will see that, and I challenge any Member connected with the working of these Societies to deny my statement.

Then, coming to the other activities of the Co-operative Department—more beneficient activities of fundamental importance to the mass of the agricultural population—for giving seeds, manure, agricultural implements, for encouraging buildings, etc.—activities which go to the very root of the peasants' happiness—we see almost nothing in this direction done by

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the department. It is not that the Co-operative Societies and the non-officials connected with them have no knowledge of the importance of the help that the Co-operative Societies can give to the peasants by the supply of manure, seeds or implements; it is because the Government have not been sufficiently interested by the officials of the Co-operative Department and by the non-officials or the public who are interested in the working of the department in that direction. Well, Sir, I am not going to pass any verdict on the working of the Co-operative Institute for reasons which are too well-known to this House, because I spoke about it only in the last session. But I hope that the gentlemen responsible for the working of the Co-operative Institute will open their eyes and try to translate into action what they know already without getting down a Devadhar. I would say that at least half a dozen Agricultural Societies may be started this year, another half a dozen next year, and so on. Then, we can do more in this direction than we can by the paraphernalia of a Committee of experts. In the next budget session, when the demand under "Co-operation" comes, the Members will make the Government understand things better so as to see that the Societies are made to work on lines which would encourage cottage industries, and which would meet the agricultural interests of the State. This can be done by the Government itself, and if more of advice is required, it will be given by this House and not by any Committee. I am not convinced that the Co-operative Department is working satisfactorily and steadily as the Government believes. I do not believe so. Unfortunately, the English language contains the words "satisfactorily," "steadily," "sympathetically considering," etc.,—vague, elastic and tempting words. I oppose this resolution because we are not gaining anything by the appointment of a Committee. I agree with the main principle of the resolution as to the attitude of the public as regards the Co-operative Department. I do not agree with the mover in the matter of the appointment of a Committee. The difficulties of the working we have fully ventilated through this House, and if only the Government can make up its mind, things can be done better.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Sir, I wish to support this resolution, although I am not satisfied with the constitution of the Committee which is proposed by the mover. I think there is considerable force in the argument that the present Societies are not working in proper order. We often hear of Co-operative Societies in Cochin where loans have been advanced without any document, and I understand there is now a suit pend-

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ing before the Registrar, impleading all the members of a Society to realise a loan from them, where the Secretary is said to have advanced the amount on a pro-note which is not executed by the alleged borrower. There are several instances of that type, and they are all due to want of effective supervision. At the time of the last budget discussion, I brought to the notice of this House that the supervision was ineffective. If supervision is not conducted properly, it is not the department that has to be blamed. You have three Inspectors and 140 and odd Societies. Is it humanly possible for one Inspector to inspect satisfactorily 40 and odd Societies in a quarter? It will take at least a week to inspect the accounts of one Society. So I brought to the notice of the Government the time has come for them to strengthen the Inspectorate. But all that has now been neglected. They say the question has been referred to the Finance Committee which is already pre-occupied with many other important questions. They cannot pass their verdict on this question alone. The time has come for us to institute a Committee to inquire into the working of Co-operative Societies in Cochin. We do not want too many experts, and that is why I say I object to the constitution of the Committee proposed. We have in Cochin experts who have studied the problem. Necessary facts may be collected and placed before them. That will be the correct procedure.

Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.—You will see, Sir, they have mixed up the Co-operative Department with the Co-operative movement. I have nothing to say about the department. I was all the while talking of the movement. I do not want the Government to give us any money, nor did I ask for more officers. But I simply wanted the Government to get people to put their heads together and give a report which will help us in the matter of further work. I understand from the Government Member that the Government is not favourably inclined towards anybody conducting an enquiry and making a report. After the expression of this view of the Government, I have nothing more to add. I am really sorry, and if you will permit me, I shall most willingly withdraw my resolution, and let Co-operation take care of itself.

President.—It requires the permission of this Council.

Mr. C. Achyuta Menon.—I object to the withdrawal.

President.—The question is whether Mr. Rama Ayyar has the leave of the House to withdraw his resolution.

The motion to with draw was put to vote and lost.

Mr. S. F. Nunez.—The mover had asked for leave to withdraw. It is but natural.

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Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar.—There is no naturalness in the mover's motive. It is unnatural.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—His vote need not be taken.

The resolution of Mr. K. S. Rama Ayyar was put to vote and was carried.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I think, on the last occasion, the President ruled that all gentlemen should stand up when taking votes, to avoid all difficulties.

Dr. A. G. Menon—That need be done only when a poll is demanded and not always.

The appointment of a Fisheries Investigation Officer.

പ്രസിഡെണ്ട്.—ഇനി മിസ്റ്റർ കറുപ്പന്റെ പ്രമേയമാണ്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കറുപ്പൻ.—"കൊച്ചിയിലെ മത്സ്യവ്യവസായത്തിലും തൊഴിലാളികളിലും ഏറ്റപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ദോഷങ്ങളുടേയും സങ്കടങ്ങളുടേയും പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെ നിർദ്ദേശിക്കുവാൻ തക്കവണ്ണം സമഗ്രമായ ഒരു റിപ്പോർട്ടെഴുതി ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു് സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നു് ഈ കൌൺസിൽ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നു" എന്നാണു് എന്റെ പ്രമേയം.

സർ, മത്സ്യവ്യവസായക്കാരുടെ ഇടയിൽ നാലഞ്ചു വത്സരങ്ങൾക്കപ്പുറം, വലിയ ദാരിദ്ര്യം പിടിപെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. മത്സ്യത്തിന്റെ ആദായംകൊണ്ടു് അവർ സമ്പാദിച്ചിരുന്നതായ സമ്പത്തുക്കൾ മിക്കതും വിറ്റുപോയി. ശേഷിച്ചവ കടത്തിലും ഏറ്റപ്പെട്ടു. അവരുടെ ഇടയിൽ തുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്ന പരസ്പരസഹായ സംഘങ്ങളുടെ നടത്തിപ്പു് വളരെ തണുത്തു തുടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അവർക്കു് പണ്ടില്ലാത്തവണ്ണം സംഭവിച്ച ഈ ദാരിദ്ര്യത്തിന്റേയും സങ്കടങ്ങളുടേയും കാരണം അന്യായവും അനിയന്ത്രിതവുമായ മത്സ്യബന്ധമല്ലാതെ മറ്റൊന്നുമല്ല.

പണ്ടു കാലങ്ങളിൽ ഇല്ലാത്ത പലതരം നശീകരണസമ്പ്രദായങ്ങളും മത്സ്യബന്ധത്തിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ കടന്നുകൂടീട്ടുണ്ടു്. പുഴകളിൽ ഏറ്റവും കയറുന്ന സമയത്തു് വയലുകളിലേയ്ക്കു് മത്സ്യങ്ങളെ കടത്തി ഏറ്റവും സമയത്തു് അടവേ പിടിച്ചെടുക്കുന്ന "ചെമ്മീൻവാറു്" എന്ന സമ്പ്രദായത്തിനാണു് നശീകരണപ്രയോഗങ്ങളിൽ പ്രാധാന്യം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഈ നശീകരണവിദ്യ തുടങ്ങിയനാൾ മുതൽ, ഉന്നികളിലും ചീനവലകളിലും മറ്റും ആദായങ്ങൾ കുറഞ്ഞുതുടങ്ങി. ചാൽകൃഷിക്കും സാരമായ ദോഷം സംഭവിച്ചു. തുരുത്തുകളിൽ ജലദുർഭിക്ഷവും വന്നു. തെങ്ങുകൾക്കും പറയത്തക്ക ദോഷങ്ങൾ നേരിട്ടു. മത്സ്യത്തിന്റെ വളർച്ച പൂർത്തിയാകുംമുമ്പു് പിടിച്ചെടുക്കുന്നതിനാൽ അതു സംബന്ധമായ കയറ്റുമതിയും കുറഞ്ഞിരിക്കാം.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly